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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ATTACHMENT D

TO ALL THE MILITANTS OF THE PARTIDO SOCIALISTA UNIFICADO DE CATALUNA

Comrades:

Our Party, the PSUC, the first achievement in the capitalist world of the line of political unity of the working class approved by the VIIIth Congress of the Communist International, has been threatened by a provoked crisis which, if not suppressed, will paralyze its progress, sap its strength, and, consequently, incapacitate it for the completion of the historic mission which it has set for itself.

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Thanks to the presence of our Party, to its nature - independent, unifying and national - it was possible to overcome the hegemony of Anarcho-Syndicalism in the labor movement and snatch from the bourgeoisie the banner of nationalism. With the creation of the PSUC we see the departure from Catalonia of the political expression of social-democratic reformism; we see facilitated the unification of the working class and the submerging of the Trotskyite nuclei; we see an attack on the fundamentals of the last obstacle which confronts the organic fusion of the UGT and the CNT: the reactionary philosophy of Anarchism and its degeneration in the FAI (Federacion Anarquista Iberica). The intransigent maintenance of the PSUC in its original form, the inflexible will to be faithful to its historic mission, have paralyzed the efforts of the bourgeoisie to reestablish the Trotskyite nuclei and to organize, with all the cast-offs, a social-democratic party subservient to the bourgeoisie. *** Thanks to the PSUC the working class and the people of Catalonia have become conscious of their role in the democratic evolution of our country and of Spain, and the nationalist sentiment of the Catalans has ceased to be a factor in the control of reaction, and has been converted into a decisive factor in the service of the Spanish revolution. Thanks to the Marxist-Leninist principles of our Party, to its proletarian internationalism, the people of Catalonia have felt themselves each day more allied with the other peoples of Spain, and the Catalan masses ** have seen in it the faithful interpreter of their interests and the means of achieving their social and nationalist aspirations.

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We know that the Secretary General of the Party, Comrade Joan COMORERA, always has made use of all the possibilities to shield the Party and our working class from the most serious danger of this crisis which was the final expression of a succession of difficulties, of internal conflicts, of grave and repeated attempts at the liquidation of the Party but which a long time ago was overcome with the inestimable aid of the Communist International, and afterwards by the firmness with which it was opposed. Since the very foundation of the PSUC, the Secretary General has steadfastly proclaimed ** the absolute necessity for common action, for a common line with the sister party, the Communist Party of Spain; has suggested without equivocation or vacillation the inevitable prospect of the One Marxist-Leninist Party of the Hispanic Peoples. The record shows it.

The Secretary General has willingly discussed the problem ***. Comrade COMORERA has recommended to all of us who have talked with him, and to all our comrades, serene political discussion of the problem posed, in

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25X1A

~~SECRET~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ATTACHMENT D

-2-

the legal forums of the Party. Furthermore, the Secretary General on 3 September addressed himself to friends of indisputable stature, asking their aid in refereeing a fundamental discussion of all the problems between him and the Political Bureau of the PCE. Comrade COMORERA has stated that he would accept in advance the decision **.

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The solidarity of Communist parties is an obligatory consequence of proletarian internationalism. In seeking, then, the support of a great sister party in such a complex and difficult moment of our Party, the Secretary General has not given weapons to the enemy, nor has he surrendered our personality as a national party independent of any other party. For it is no mystery to anyone - and it has never been hidden nor has any party or any Communist been ashamed to say so - that criticism of party to party, and self-criticism, are current practices and necessary ones in certain moments. Neither is it a secret that our guiding Party is the glorious Communist Party (B) of the USSR; that our master and most venerated leader is Comrade Stalin. It is fitting, therefore, that we approve the initiative of our Secretary General, as it would have been fitting for the members of the old Secretariat to have done.

We are sincerely grieved that this same initiative of Comrade Joan COMORERA, this same desire of ours, are not shared by all our comrades. ***

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Why, in the absence of the Secretary General, was the order given to burn the Catalan edition of the Communist Manifesto of Marx and Engels destined for the interior, the text of which is exactly the same as the edition which still is used in exile?

Why, in numbers 217, 218 and 219 of Lluita, were lying articles published which perverted the character of the Party, which denied the Party the highest honor of having been the Catalan Section of the Communist International?

Why was it decided that Margarita ABRIL, associate member of the old Secretariat, should state in Lluita that the Party was about to give battle to bourgeois nationalism in its midst and to win the battle, but without pointing out in which one or ones of our colleagues this nationalism was found? Where are the proofs which justify this statement? Why are there no particulars?

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This accumulation of circumstances amply demonstrates to us that *** a conspiracy has been in progress for some time to integrate the PSUC into the Communist Party of Spain. This, besides being a violation of the rights and the will of the militants, would mean returning to the negative experience of the existence in Catalonia of numerous splinter parties, without influence among the working class and the masses, an experience which had catastrophic results during more than fifty years.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ATTACHMENT D

-3-

We reaffirm the political rightness of our attitude of fidelity to the Party, to the cause of the working class, to the cause of socialism and communism. We want our Party united, strong and open to the best sons of our working class, of the peasants, of the artisans, of the petty bourgeoisie, of the intellectuals, of all our people. We want our PSUC to be every day more intermixed, more homogeneous, more Bolshevik, every day more brotherly with the Communist Party of Spain, an aspiration in which we wish to be understood by its Political Bureau in the first instance.

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Comrades: Let us make the PSUC, in fraternal union with the PCE, every day more capable of directing our people, in brotherly relation with the other peoples of Spain, in the fight against Franco-Falangism, for the democratic Republic, for the national liberties of Catalonia, towards socialism.

Paris, 7 November 1949.

Signed: Miguel VALDES, GRANIER-BARRERA, Evaristo MASSIP, Amadeu BERNARD, Josep MARLES, G. MARTI Salvat, Antonio VIDAL
(and 72 others)

The signers, resident in Paris, call urgently upon all the militants of our PSUC to join in this document, the sole mission of which is to save the Party to serve better the sacred cause of the Catalan working class, of the PCE of the Spanish working class and of Communism.

Address: A. BERNARDO, 112 Boulevard Victor Hugo, Clichy (Seine) France.

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